THE CITY OF KEY WEST
Post Office Box 1409 Key West, FL 33041 (305) 809-3883

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Jim Scholl, City Manager

**FROM:** Jim Bouquet, P.E., Director of Engineering

**DATE**: January 11, 2017

**RE:** Florida Department of Transportation Lane Repurposing on SR A1A/South Roosevelt Boulevard between Bertha Street and the East End of Smathers Beach.

**ACTION STATEMENT:**

Authorize Florida Department of Transportation to proceed with the currently designed four lane project on SR A1A/South Roosevelt Boulevard between Bertha Street and the east end of Smathers Beach.

**BACKGROUND:**

In a June 29, 2016 letter to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), The City of Key West (City) requested a repurposing study to evaluate impacts of reducing the number of lanes from four to two relative to traffic operations along South Roosevelt Boulevard, specifically the section between Bertha Street and the east end of Smathers Beach. This section of the boulevard is currently programed for reconstruction under FDOT Project Number 250548-8. This letter request was consistent with the "Complete Streets" program adopted by FDOT in late 2014.

Commencing in October 2016, FDOT began a study of lane repurposing/reduction options by restriping/medians/landscaping while maintaining the current roadway design cross-section (width). Bi-weekly steering committee meetings included the FDOT team, along with City staff and Key West Fire Department representatives.

Study goals and objectives included:

- Safer pedestrian and transportation/vehicle use and interaction
- Retain proposed drainage improvements
- Creation of dedicated bicycle lanes
- Maintain the existing Promenade
- Addition of landscaping buffers or landscaped medians
- Maintain on-street parking for vehicles and vendors
- Review transit facilities needs

Four potential options (including "No Change") were developed by FDOT and presented to the public at a workshop held at the Sheridan Suites on December 13, 2016. A summary of the workshop is attached.

Based on input derived from the workshop, the City Commission is requested to consider two options:

1. *Current Roadway Design* - Maintain existing four lane configuration (No Change option).
2. *Option Roadway Design* - Two travel lanes, a center turn lane, striped median and dedicated bicycle lanes (both directions).

FDOT will present details regarding the repurposing study at the February 7, 2017 City Commission meeting. A copy of the presentation is attached.

**PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION:**

This resolution will determine whether the *Current Roadway Design* along this section of South Roosevelt Boulevard will be maintained (no change) or the *Option Roadway Design* including two travel lanes and dedicated bike lanes will be adopted.

Implementing the Option Roadway Design for improving South Roosevelt Boulevard will better support *a transportation system which is aesthetically attractive, functional, efficient, safe and environmentally sensitive* (Strategic Plan Infrastructure Goal 1).

**FINANCIAL ISSUES**

Plan revisions (if required) and subsequent construction of either option will be fully funded by FDOT.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The City Commission should consider the merits of both the *Current Roadway Design* and the *Option Roadway Design* and select the preferred option for improvements along SR A1A/South Roosevelt Boulevard between Bertha Street and the east end of Smathers Beach; however, approval of this resolution will authorize Florida Department of Transportation to proceed with the currently designed four lane project.